

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

On page 10, please replace the paragraph spanning lines 15-23 with the following new paragraph:

--In the present invention, use of a carbonate group-containing compound ensures that at least one of the ~~calcium~~ calcium compound block and the phosphate solution contains ~~phosphate~~ carbonate group(s). As used herein, "a carbonate group-containing compound" refers to carbon dioxide (CO₂) or a compound of carbonate group (CO₃²⁻) and cation, exemplified by carbon dioxide gas, dry ice, sodium hydrogencarbonate, disodium carbonate, potassium hydrogencarbonate, dipotassium carbonate, ammonium hydrogencarbonate, diammonium carbonate, calcium carbonate, and the like. A single carbonate group-containing can be used, while a mixture of a plurality of carbonate group-containing compounds can also be used.--

Please replace the paragraph spanning pages 10 and 11 with the following new paragraph:

--As used herein with respect to the present invention, "apatite" refers to a compound having a basic structure expressed by the formula $A_{40}(\text{BO}_4)_6\text{C}_6$ ~~$A_{10}(\text{BO}_4)_6\text{C}_2$~~ , wherein A denotes Ca²⁺, Cd²⁺, Sr²⁺, Ba²⁺, Pb²⁺, Zn²⁺, Mg²⁺, Mn²⁺, Fe²⁺, H⁺, H₃O⁺, Na⁺, K⁺, A¹³⁺, Y³⁺, Ce³⁺, Nd³⁺, La³⁺, C⁴⁺ or the like, BO₄ denotes PO₄³⁻, CO₃²⁻, CrO₄³⁻, AsO₄³⁻, VO₄³⁻, UO₄³⁻, SO₄²⁻, SiO₄⁴⁻, GeO₄⁴⁻ or the like, C denotes OH⁻, OD⁻, F⁻, Br⁻, BO₂⁻, CO₃²⁻, O²⁻, or the like. As used herein with respect to the present invention, "hydroxyapatite" is Ca₁₀(PO₄)₆(OH)₂. As used herein with respect to the present invention, "carbonate apatite (apatite carbonate)" refers to an apatite in which a part or all of phosphate groups or hydroxyl groups therein are replaced with carbonate groups. The apatite in which phosphate groups are replaced with carbonate groups are called B-type carbonate apatite, while the apatite in which hydroxyl groups are replaced with carbonate groups are called A-type carbonate apatite.--